

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/520,269

Applicant(s)

ANDERSEN, RICHARD PARK

Examiner

Noosha Arjomandi

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to March 29, 2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-13, 15-24 and 26-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/29/2010
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date June 8, 2010.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on March 29, 2010, in which claims 9-30 are presented for further examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher B. Eide Reg. No. (48,375) on June 11, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claim:

Please amend claims 9, 14-16, 20, and 25-26 as follow:

Claim 9 (currently amended): A computer-implemented process for use in a computer network that includes at least two computers communicatively coupled to each other, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) accepting a first user's request;

(b) searching a local knowledge object repository comprising local knowledge each of the local knowledge objects being associated with the first user;

(c) searching a central knowledge object repository comprising contributed knowledge objects;

(d) returning to the first user a list of links for all matching local and contributed knowledge objects, said matching local and contributed knowledge objects being marked either local or published or listed;

(e) allowing access to said matching local and contributed knowledge objects if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked local or published;

(f) forwarding the first user's request to a second user and prompting the second user for authorization of access if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked listed from the list, the second user having control of access to the knowledge object marked listed object; ~~and~~

(g) returning to the first user the chosen knowledge object marked listed if the second user allows access;

(h) notifying the first user that the request is not completed if the second user declines access to the listed knowledge object.

Claim 14. Cancelled.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The process of claim [[14]] 9, wherein the step (g) further comprises the step of: prompting the second user to add a message for the first user.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The process of claim [[14]] 9, wherein the step (g) further comprises the step of: prompting the second user to publish the chosen listed knowledge object.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium containing instructions in computer readable form for carrying out a process for promoting information and knowledge sharing among the users registered to a computer network, the process comprising:

- (a) receiving a first user's request;
- (b) causing a search of searching-a local knowledge object comprising local, accessible knowledge objects associated with the first user;
- (c) causing a search of a central knowledge object repository comprising and all contributed knowledge objects associated with other users;
- (d) returning to the first user a list of links for all matching local and contributed knowledge objects, said matching local and contributed knowledge objects being marked either local or published or listed;
- (e) allowing access to said matching local and contributed knowledge objects if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked local or published;
- (f) forwarding the first user's request to a second user and prompting the second user for authorization of access if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked listed from the list, the second user having control of access to the knowledge object marked listed object; and
- (g) allowing access by the first user to the chosen listed knowledge object if the second user allows access;

(h) notifying the first user if the second user declines access to the listed knowledge object.

Claim 25. Cancelled.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The computer readable storage medium of claim [[25]] 20, wherein the step (g) further comprises the step of: prompting the second user to add a message for the first user.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest that “(a) accepting a first user's request; (b) searching a local knowledge object repository comprising local knowledge each of the local knowledge objects being associated with the first user; (c) searching a central knowledge object repository comprising contributed knowledge objects; (d) returning to the first user a list of links for all matching local and contributed knowledge objects, said matching local and contributed knowledge objects being marked either local or published or listed; (e) allowing access to said matching local and contributed knowledge objects if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked local or published; (f) forwarding the first user's request to a second user and prompting the second user for authorization of access if the first user chooses a knowledge object marked listed from the list, the second user having control of access to the knowledge object marked

listed object; (g) returning to the first user the chosen knowledge object marked listed if the second user allows access; (h) notifying the first user that the request is not completed if the second user declines access to the listed knowledge object " as recited in independent claims 9 and 20.

Therefore, all pending claims 9-13, 15-24 and 26-30 are hereby allowed. These features, in conjunction with all other limitations of the dependent and independent claims, render claims 9-13, 15-24 and 26-30 (renumbered as 1-20) are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own

application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public. For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199. The USPTO's official fax number is 571-272-8300. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Noosha Arjomandi, whose telephone number is (571) 272-9784. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham, can be reached on (571) 272-7079.

January 20, 2010

/Noosha Arjomandi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2167

/C. T. T./

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169

/John R. Cottingham/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2167